

Kitchen islands, hoods get elegant look of cabinetry

By JOE BASILE

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If you're like most people, you spend a great deal of time in your kitchen, so remodeling it is an investment that will give you pleasure every day.

It is a good idea to hire a professional designer rather than try to do it all yourself.

Even before renovation begins, a designer will look at the space and devise the most functional and convenient layout.

He or she might be able to think of ways to open up smaller spaces or to solve other problems.

The designer also will have a lot of basic knowledge that will help you avoid mistakes, and will be familiar with the many products available.

Cabinets will set the tone and ambience of your kitchen. Take time to explore different styles to determine which you find most appealing.

Today, the trend is toward contemporary-style cabinetry with clean lines, flat doors and few details, and finished with lacquer or laminate.

Many people, however, still prefer cabinetry with the warmer, more traditional look of profiled wood and natural finishes. Adding stainless-steel hardware and other accents, though, can give modern, contemporary flair to traditional cabinets, thus creating a stylish blend of the two looks.

South Florida homeowners are moving away from lighter wood



All photos courtesy of Kitchen Craft

Cabinetry should be functional and efficient as well as beautiful. Horizontally stacked shallow drawers keep pots and pans much more easily accessible than a single deep shelf.



A range hood used to be a utilitarian device for housing a fan. Today, a hood may look almost like a piece of sculpture. A decorative hood becomes a visual focal point in the kitchen.